

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph starting at line 16 on page 2 as follows:

It is an object of the invention to simplify a condenser of the initially mentioned type, particularly with respect to the design of the collecting tube and the collector, and to ensure that these parts are also securely connected with one another before a brazing in a brazing furnace.

Please amend the paragraph starting at line 28 on page 4 as follows:

A condenser, which is only partially shown in Figure 1, has a collecting tube 10 which is a one-piece, preferably welded round tube. The collecting tube 10 is provided at regular distances with passages 11 which are used for accommodating flat tubes. Normally, so-called corrugated fin plates are arranged between the flat tubes in a block B of tubes and fins, which is partially schematically shown in phantom in Figure 1. The opposite ends of the flat tubes, which are not shown, are fitted into passages of a mirror-invertedly arranged collecting tube. On the top and on the bottom, the collecting tube 10 is closed by closing lids 12 which are inserted in a force-locking manner. At defined distances, the collecting tube 10 is provided in the axial direction with partitions 13. Additional partitions are also assigned (at different axial distances) to the opposite collecting tube, which is not shown. These additional partitions, in connection with the partitions 13, cause the

refrigerant to flow through the condenser in a meandering manner.

Please amend the paragraph starting on line 19 of page 5 as follows:

The flat tubes, the corrugated fins, the collecting tubes 10, the partitions 13 and the lids 12 are plated with a material appropriate for brazing so that they can be brazed to one another in a furnace, particularly by way of what is known as the ~~Nocelok~~ NOCOLOK process. Next to the collecting tube 10, and parallel thereto, a collector 14 is arranged which receives a cartridge 15 which contains dryer granulates and, in addition, acts as a filter screen. Between the collecting tube 10 and the collector 14, connection openings 16, 17 are provided above and below the lowest partition 13. Between the two openings, the cartridge 15 is provided with a sealing ring 18 resting on the inside against the collector 14, so that the refrigerant, which is already virtually completely liquified in this area, will necessarily flow through the cartridge 15.

Please amend the paragraph starting at line 18 on page 6 as follows:

The tube piece 19 has a larger outside diameter than the welded tube of the collector, onto the lower end of which the tube piece is pressed by way of a ring shoulder 19a. The tube piece 19 defines an extruded profile, as illustrated particularly in Figure 3. On its exterior side, the tube piece has a longitudinal rib 21 which forms ~~a~~ an external longitudinal groove the outside of which is adapted to the

outer circumference of the collecting tube 10. The radial depth of the recess 20 and the radial dimension of the tube piece 19 and of the longitudinal rib 21 are coordinated with one another such that the collecting tube 10 is arranged parallel to the tube-shaped collector, in which case the collecting tube rests flatly in the area of the recess 20 and in the area of the longitudinal rib 21. In this manner, an insulating air gap 29 is left along the predominant length of the collector 14 and the collecting tube 10. As a result, heat transmission from the condenser to the collector 14 is limited so that it is less likely that, because of such heat transport, already liquid refrigerant will be evaporated again in the collector 14. This insulation can still be improved if the air gap 29 is filled with heat-insulating material, such as glass fiber mats.

Please amend the paragraph starting at line 14 on page 7 as follows:

The collecting tube 10 and the collector 14 are placed on one another and aligned in a clamping device. They are then connected with one another by tack weld seams 22, 23 in the area of the recess 20 and in the area of the longitudinal rib 21, which preferably consist of short laser weld seams or TIG seams. Subsequently, the collector 14 and the collecting tube 10 are fixedly connected with one another such that they can easily be removed from the clamping device and transported to a brazing furnace.

Please amend the paragraph starting at line 10 on page 8 as follows:

In the embodiment according to Figures 4 and 5, the collector 14' has the form of a round tube which is continuous along its whole length and is preferably welded. The collecting tube 10' rests against this round tube of the collector 14' along a surface line. In the areas of the connection openings 16', 17', the collecting tube 10' is provided with a recess 27 which forms a longitudinal groove adapted to the outer contour of the collector 14'. In the area of this groove, the collecting tube 10' and the exterior tube 14' rest flatly against one another. Also in this embodiment, the collecting tube 10' and the collector 14' are joined in a clamping device and are aligned with respect to one another and are then tack-welded with one another by short laser weld seams or TIG seams. These laser weld seams may be provided at any point because the collecting tube 10' and the collector 14' contact one another along a surface line over the whole length.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWING FIGURES

Please amend the drawing figures as shown in the replacement figures attached to this preliminary amendment.